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SECURITY INFORMATION

NIS COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 150
12 May 1953

1. The following were present:

Dr. Appleton	State
Mr. Clinton	State
Major Jacobson	Army
Capt. Norgaard	Navy
Lt. Jones	Navy
25X1A92 Lt. Col. Rush	Air Force
[REDACTED]	CIA (Vice-Chairman)

DOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☒
☐ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S O
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 2010
AUTH: HR 10-2
DATE 26 NOV 1988 REVIEWER: 018645

2. Production of Supplement IV (Urban Areas)

The Vice-Chairman informed the Committee that CIA had made further study of ways and means of fulfilling recently placed requirements for Urban Area studies on forty towns in the USSR. (Refer to NIS Committee Meeting No. 149, 21 April 1953). As a result of discussions with Army and Air Force representatives concerned with the subject, the Geographic Division, CIA, reached the conclusion that the most logical and satisfactory way for providing the requested studies is to have them produced under the NIS Program. This program already makes provision for the production of detailed urban area studies in Supplement IV. However, the Geographic Division has pointed out that some revision of the Outline Guide for this supplement might be necessary in order to provide the coverage desired.

With respect to Army's capabilities for producing these studies in FY 1954, the Army member reported that this had been discussed with the Corps of Engineers, which has production responsibility for Supplement IV, but that no determination of capabilities could be made until information is furnished as to which towns are involved, and the extent to which the presently prescribed treatment must be expanded to meet current requirements. The Vice-Chairman undertook to furnish the desired information.

3. Special Treatment Areas

In accordance with his agreement, the Vice-Chairman distributed copies of a list of NIS areas for which, because of their political or geographic peculiarities, the NIS Committee has provided special treatment. (Refer to NIS Committee Meeting No. 149, 21 April 1953). The list also includes other areas for which special treatment will have to be provided because of similar peculiarities.

It was pointed out that the special treatment provided for on the several areas on which the Committee had already taken action created problems

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in that the segmented coverage within the various Sections was treated as Part I, II, etc., in some areas, and under letter designations A, B, etc., in others. Further, in some instances these segments were being scheduled and produced as separate elements, which resulted in only partial coverage of the topics on the area as a whole. The Vice-Chairman pointed out that in Chapter II (Military Geography), areas are determined in terms of natural geographic units, and designated as Part I, II, etc., in those areas where there are a number of such units within one NIS area. For example, NIS 26 is broken down into five parts. The use of "Part" to indicate political divisions within an NIS area does not, therefore, appear to be an appropriate designation. It is felt that the "Part" designation should apply only to the natural geographic units as presently provided for in the Standard Instructions, and that other segmented treatment within a Section made necessary by situations peculiar to the area should be handled under an appropriate letter heading. Further, it is considered highly desirable to provide for simultaneous production of all Section segments in order to permit publication within one Section cover, rather than as separate elements. The Vice-Chairman requested that the members take the matter under study with a view toward adopting a general policy along these lines.

Since not all of the NIS areas listed will be amenable to treatment under the general policy which the Committee will establish, the Vice-Chairman further requested that the members be prepared to present suggestions as to how to handle those which will require special treatment aside from the general policy. The matter will be brought up for consideration at a later date.

4. Non-IAC Agency requirements for NIS

The Vice-Chairman referred to IAC D-45/12 (Revision 3), approved 24 March 1953, dealing with automatic dissemination of certain NIS elements to various non-IAC agencies. The distribution of these NIS elements to the non-IAC agencies was approved by NIS Committee actions over the past four years. However, in order to comply with the recent policy statement of the Office of the Secretary of Defense that the "need to know" qualification be re-examined, the Army member has initiated a survey of the non-IAC agencies which receive Army produced NIS elements to determine whether they still have an official need for the intelligence. (Refer to NIS Committee Meeting No. 147, dated 18 March 1953).

The Vice-Chairman suggested that rather than have individual surveys conducted by the defense agencies, it would be preferable to delegate the authority to OCD to determine the continuing "need to know" of the non-IAC agencies concerned. He stated that he had discussed the matter with OCD and that office is willing to undertake the survey. The members approved this suggestion, and the Vice-Chairman agreed to request OCD to make the investigation, and to report its findings to the NIS Committee.

5. Hongkong

The Vice-Chairman ^{25X1X7} announced that a question had arisen recently with respect to the dissemination [REDACTED] of NIS material dealing with Hongkong.

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A check with State-Defense Military Information Control Committee disclosed that there is no over-all restriction on release ^{25X1X7} of intelligence relating to Hongkong. Consequently, unless the Section containing such information is controlled in its entirety by the producing agency the element will be disseminated as provided for in IAC D-45/12.

6. Requirements for NIS elements on Combined Areas

The Vice-Chairman stated that an informal check of the IAC agencies reveals that most of their surplus stock of NIS is in the Chapter II elements for the combined areas. He pointed out that in the early days of the NIS Program it was agreed that the press run would be fixed at an amount sufficient to furnish the agencies copies of elements for each area in the combined areas. For example, in the case of NIS 4-6, the normal press run of Chapter II elements is 675 copies tripled, or 2,025 copies. Under the present system copies of elements for each of the three areas involved are furnished the agencies, so that NIS for each area will be complete. However, if only one copy is being disseminated to users it results in two incomplete sets of NIS in the hands of the users, and a surplus in the stock held by the agencies. The Vice-Chairman requested that the members survey their requirements for NIS Chapter II elements in the combined areas and advise D/B of their actual needs, in order that an adjustment may be made in dissemination if necessary to avoid building up excessive surpluses.

7. Survey on NIS Program

In accordance with the Committee's decision to conduct a survey of user reaction to the NIS, the Vice-Chairman distributed copies of a proposed questionnaire drawn up in D/B from the consolidated list of suggested questions submitted by the agencies. He requested that the members study the proposed questionnaire, and submit to D/B suggestions for improvement in the questions and the format. These will be incorporated in a revised questionnaire and submitted to the Committee for final approval.

The Vice-Chairman suggested that the agencies be responsible for disseminating the questionnaire to their users, and for preparing a covering memorandum to accompany the questionnaire giving instructions for its accomplishment and return. He suggested, further, that this covering memorandum point out clearly (1) that the NIS Program is designed to provide basic intelligence only, and (2) that it has a two-phase production program, with phase one treating the NIS areas initially within the limits of available information, and phase two providing for revision of the published NIS to present up to date information as it becomes available.

The Committee approved these suggestions, and the matter will be brought up for consideration again at a later meeting.

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8. May Production

The Vice-Chairman stated that an average production rate of 53 Sections per month for April, May, and June was required to meet the 8 NIS per year goal set by the JCS. However, because of April defections it will be necessary to raise the number for May and June to 68 Sections per month. Production for May is 107 Sections overdue from previous months, and 56 Sections due in May, or a total of 163 Sections for the month. To date D/B has received 13 Sections, leaving a balance of 150 Sections still required to bring production up to schedule.

9. The next meeting of the Committee will be held at the call of the Vice-Chairman.



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Distribution:

- 4 - NIS Committee
- 1 - Secy, JIC
- 1 - AD/RR
- 1 - AD/IC
- 1 - AD/SI
- 1 - CH/C
- 1 - CH/G
- 3 - D/B

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